

# NEW MARKET UMC NEWSLETTER FOR DECEMBER 2010

Have you ever woken up angry? When you wake up is the first cohesive thought an angry one? Have you ever woken up worried? Have you ever woken up scared? Do you ever go through your days vaguely unsatisfied, worried about your future, angry because of something you don't have?

If so, here's another question. Why? We are the children of a loving and caring God fills our lives every day with good gifts and the things we need every day. We are still breathing, we have people who love and care for us, we have freedom unheard of in many other parts of the world. We have uncountable blessings. What reason do we have to worry, or be angry?

Have you noticed, over the last several years, everyone being on edge? A lot of it has to do with the economy and the worry that somehow we will be left on the wanting side. I think another part of it is constantly demanding of more and feeling we are receiving less. We have come to expect instant gratification and when gratification is delayed we get on edge irritated, worried. And this is not how God intends us to live.

Both of these attitudes have everything to do with being convinced, overwhelmed with the idea that we are entitled – the belief that we are entitled to everything the world has to offer. We covet nice houses, nice cars, good food, impeccable service, perfect marriages, the latest TV, or cell phone, or computer, everything, and when we don't get it we get worried, or angry, and demanding. But we have forgotten one thing, we don't deserve, are not entitled to any of that stuff. We are not even entitled to the next breath we will take! They are in fact all gifts of God, not entitlements, but gifts.

In fact by putting the things we think we are entitled to at the center of our concern, we have forgotten about God. Keeping this in mind, hear once again Paul's words in Romans. "For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him. But their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles". . . he continues in vs. 28, "Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed, and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful, they invent ways of doing evil." Talk about being in the wrong frame of mind!

What Paul is saying that we have lost the healthy perspective of having God at the center of our lives and recognizing God as the source of all things. Instead of

acknowledging God, we simply take what we can get and call ourselves entitled.

In the Gospel, we read about the 10 lepers healed by Jesus. Nine of those lepers went to the pool to wash, and then being healed went their merry way, happy with their stroke of fortune, as though they had somehow been entitled to this wondrous gift. One former leper, on the other hand recognized the healing for what it was, an unmerited gift. And he returned to Jesus to give thanks.

I remember one morning I was down in Baltimore for a meeting. I had a little time to kill so I dropped into a Starbucks coffee shop for some coffee. In front of me was this lady who apparently had her heart set on a Caramel Machiato Venti. Unfortunately they were having an equipment problem and it would be a while before she could have her Caramel Machiato Venti. To say that she was put out would be an understatement. She obviously felt she deserved that Caramel Machiato Venti. She could not survive without it. She demanded it! She was entitled to it! Not one "please", just demands. "It's my coffee and I want it now!" She was giving the poor barista a real hard time and making everyone else miserable.

When we convince ourselves, or let others convince us that we are deserving, that we are entitled, to the things we have or desire to possess, we will always ultimately be disappointed. Angry because we don't have what we think we deserve and worried that we won't get what we want or need. We will gripe because we don't get the Caramel Machiato Venti that we think we deserve, and make ourselves and everyone else miserable to boot.

We need to celebrate thanksgiving, if for no other reason, than to change our perspective. When we give thanks to God we are recognizing that God is the source of all gifts and that we are entitled no nothing. When we give thanks to God we put the world into proper perspective and discover that we are happy and grateful for a glass that's half full of blessings, rather than angry about a glass that's half empty. In thanksgiving we count our blessings rather than the absence of things we really don't deserve anyway.

Please and thank you, remember those words? Nothing more than simple manners, these words are getting scarcer and scarcer. When I was a kid I was reminded constantly to say please and thank you, and I was scolded when I didn't. They are words that recognize, that acknowledge the giver as important and appreciated. They convey, not demand, but humble request. They recognize that what we receive is a gift, not an entitlement.

Don't wake up angry about what you haven't got. You probably don't need it anyway. Your really aren't entitled to it, and living with that attitude will make you miserable. Instead wake up thanking God for the things he has given you. For some of us, it may not be much, but it is treasure beyond measure because it was given you by the hand of a loving God.

Grace and Peace, Mike

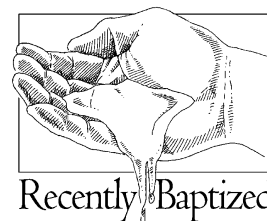
- 1 Bible study 7pm  
Prayer & Meditation group 8pm
- 2 Intercessory prayer group 7pm  
Choir 7:30pm
- 5 deadline to order Poinsettias  
Special Charge conference after church
- 7 Trustee's meeting 7pm schoolhouse
- 8 Bible study 7pm  
Prayer & Meditation group 8pm
- 9 Intercessory prayer group 7pm  
Choir 7:30pm
- 12 Christmas pageant at the 11:00am  
Service
- 14 UMW Circle of friends Christmas  
Party 11:30am Morgan's American Grill  
SPRC meeting 7pm schoolhouse
- 15 Bible study 7pm  
Prayer & Meditation group 8pm
- 16 Intercessory prayer group 7pm  
Choir 7:30pm
- 19 Christmas caroling after church
- 21 Church Council meeting 7pm schoolhouse
- 22 Bible study 7pm  
Prayer & Meditation group 8pm
- 23 Intercessory prayer group 7pm  
Choir 7:30pm
- 24 Christmas Eve service 8pm
- 25 Christmas Day
- 26 Kaden & Charlie Koch Baptism at 11:00am  
service
- 28 Outreach committee meeting 7pm  
Newsletter deadline
- 29 Bible study 7pm  
Prayer & Meditation 8pm
- 30 Intercessory prayer group 7pm  
Choir 7:30pm
- 31 New Year's Eve

If you would like to have the Church Council consider a particular organization to be included in our 2011 mission calendar, please contact Mary Lou Bernota.



## OUR MISSION FOR DECEMBER IS THE BOARD OF CHILD CARE

This month's mission offering will go to the Board of Child Care. Their ministry of serving is rooted in a strong Christian foundation based on Wesleyan traditions. This ministry of serving is constantly changing to meet the needs of today's troubled children and families. Our church is part of the Central Maryland District of the Board of Child Care who helps foster care and birth families in our community. We donate the canned corn and peas for the Thanksgiving baskets every year and we also donate the cookies for our district in early November. We will also be filling the little red cardboard Christmas stockings again this year for the Board of Child Care. Please consider giving this month to a wonderful mission that helps those right here in our community. A little kindness goes a long way!



Silas Edgar Stephen- Miller was baptized on November 14, 2010.

### THIS & THAT!

Anticipating - What a great word, especially this time of year! Christmas is coming and what does that mean. Kids have visions of toys beneath the tree - moms anticipate

shopping and planning (and yes, the stress) - dads have visions of future bills and hoping the bonus goes through - churches have visions of a Christmas play and how it's all going to come together, stores anticipate crowds - we all can anticipate the Salvation Army bells and what that means to so many without. Among all of this though is a sense of excitement, goodwill and joy.

We know that Santa\* plays a part in all this (please read below) but the joy, love and goodwill come to us because of Jesus. Some may not believe in Him yet, but He is the reason. His unconditional love for us has swept through the ages never leaving us. I don't remember many of the gifts I received growing up, although I know I enjoyed receiving them, but I remember the Christmas plays my sister, brother and I put on for the family when they came over for dinner and it gives me a warm feeling after all these years. (Even our dog Chips was in it - he played the black sheep.)

I pray each of you will feel His love in your heart - for He loves you very much!  
Happy Birthday Jesus!

Merry Christmas to all, Marilyn Brooks



\*The true story of Santa Claus begins with Saint Nicholas, who was born during the third century in the village of Patara. Saint Nicholas' wealthy parents, who raised him to be a devout Christian, died in an epidemic while Nicholas was still young. Obeying Jesus' words to "sell what you

own and give the money to the poor," Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, and the suffering. He dedicated his life to serving God.



Fellowship time- 9:15- 9:45am

Sunday School- 9:45- 10:45am

Worship- 11:00am (Nursery available)



FOR DECEMBER

Glen Beard	12/1
Paul Goebel	12/1
Marsha Zimmerman	12/1
Joyce Boyd	12/3
Edith Loveland	12/11
Alex Baughman	12/13
Maria Fauconnet	12/18
Ben Grenier	12/19
Alex Morrow	12/22
Karen Wood	12/25
Phil Gamble	12/26
Mike Fauconnet	12/27

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## MESSAGE FROM THE LAY LEADER

Who Am I to.....

Every month, as lay leader of the church, I attempt to write an article for the newsletter. It somewhat dumbfounds me how hard it is to come up with ideas for an article. I absolutely love to read, so you would think writing would be a natural for me.

Also, recently I have assisted Pastor Mike with the church services. As far as, getting up in front of the congregation, that is a bit nerve racking too, because you always worry about doing or saying the wrong thing. Writing the monthly article and assisting with church service, have some level of discomfort for me, which leads me into what I really want to talk about in this article – God’s calling.

Recently in Sunday school, Bible study and even Pastor Mike’s sermons, we have been studying how God has a calling for all of us. There is an entire cycle of experiences we go through to recognize and follow our calling. They are Revelation, Commission, Resistance, Partnership and Service.

As you, may or may not know, I walked away from church for nearly forty years, not so much because I did not believe in God; I just got lazy about putting any real effort into God’s ministry. It is for this reason I grapple with, why me? Who am I to talk about being a good Christian? Is being the lay leader and imparting my feelings and thoughts to you all God’s calling to me?

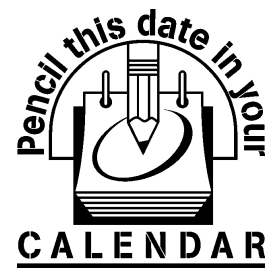
When I hear the word “Revelation” I equate that to being hit over the head with a ball bat. Needless to say I have not been clobbered with any ball bats lately. Which is why I have a slight problem with the “Revelation” part of God’s calling. Knowing I can be a bit dense about what God is trying to communicate to me, even I recognize his mission to bring me back to my Christian foundation. So I guess my calling has been revealed, at least the beginnings of what I am supposed to do.

On the “Resistance” part of God’s calling, I must be right on track, because I feel really inadequate when it comes to writing articles about our church or faith or being a good Christian?. I have so much to relearn, which is why God includes the “Partnership” within the cycle of his calling. I do not have to do this alone.

About every month I get some kind of reaction to my articles, all very complimentary. After the church service someone will tell me I did a good job. It is very reassuring and keeps me wanting to do more and do it better.

God’s call will come to all of you (if it has not already) and I am sure more will be revealed to me in the years to come. What a blessing God give us to take the time and effort to look into all of our souls and guide us to a task or function that will support His teachings and spread His word. So as we move forward into the Advent season, open your heart and listen to God’s words of direction for you, so you to will understand his calling. It will be absolutely awesome!

God’s Blessing  
on you all,  
Patty Robinson  
- Lay Leader



**There will be an Outreach Committee 6 month planning meeting held on Sunday, January 9, 2011 after the 11:00 service. We will also be having an informal potluck lunch and all church members are welcome to attend.**

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With all the problems the World is facing, it can be Unsettling to the mind. Today, I will share with you ten predictions that are true!

### **Top 10 Predictions for 2011**

1. The Bible will still have all the answers.
2. Prayer will still be the most powerful thing on Earth.
3. The Holy Spirit will still move.
4. God will still honor the praises of His people.
5. There will still be God-anointed preaching.
6. There will still be singing of praise to God.
7. God will still pour out blessings upon His people.
8. There will still be room at the Cross.
9. Jesus will still love you.
10. Jesus will still save the lost when they come to Him.

Isn't It Great To Remember Who Is Really In Control, And that; "the Word of the Lord endures forever." (1 Peter 1:25)

I hope you found this encouraging! I sure did, sometimes we need the reminder of just "WHO" is really in control.

## **LAY LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT\*\*\***

**Council Chair-Richard Riley**  
**Lay Leader-Patty Robinson**  
**Lay Member to Annual Conf.-Richard Riley**  
**SPRC Chair-**  
**Trustee Chair-Scot Morrow**  
**Finance Chair-Tim Summers**  
**Treasurer-Rita Crandall**  
**Financial Secretary-Sue Wood**  
**Recording Secretary-Patty Robinson**  
**Membership Secretary-Cathy Gamble**  
**Youth Coordinator-Julie Grenier**  
**Coordinator of Communications-Cathy Gamble**  
**Family Ministries Coordinator-Susan Summers**  
**Outreach chair-Phil Gamble**  
**Church & Society Missions-Mary Lou Bernota**  
**Sunday School Superintendent-Leslie Fauconnet**  
**UMW Circle of Friends-Thelma Gesling**  
**UMW Evening Circle-Melinda McCollum**  
**Member at Large-Mabel Heider**

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Chair-Tim Summers**  
**Treasurer-Rita Crandall**  
**Financial Secretary- Sue Wood**  
**Trustee Chair-Scot Morrow**  
**SPRC Chair-**  
**Council Chair- Richard Riley**

### **SPRC COMMITTEE**

**Class of 2011-MaryLee Matthews**

**Barbara Zimmerman**

**Class of 2012-Marilyn Brooks**

**Susan Summers**

**Matt Plasket**

**Class of 2013-Sharon Riley**

**Gene Myers**

**Dave Gaver**

## BOARD OF TRUSTEE'S

**Class of 2011-Coy Price**

**Roger Van Laan**

**Brian Rudge**

**Class of 2012-Scot Morrow**

**Mike Grenier**

**Class of 2013-Sharon Riley**

**Gene Myers**

**Dave Gaver**

**COMMITTEE ON LAY LEADERSHIP**

**Class of 2011-Carolyn McMahon**

**Mabel Heider**

**Class of 2012-Cat Lugez**

**Joan Price**

**Class of 2013-**

**ALTAR GUILD**

**Communion Stewards-Joan Price**

**Mabel Heider**

**Flowers-Barbara Stephen**

**\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS LIST IS STILL BEING PERFECTED AND THERE ARE VACANCIES WHICH WE ARE WORKING ON FILLING.**

UMW NEWS

Joyce Boyd helped us put our faith into action with the letters she wrote to send to both State and National

congressmen to move forward and support help for the poor and underprivileged. This was the theme of our World Thank Offering study which Joyce led. We thank all of you whom signed these letters.

The Circle of Friends will have their Christmas luncheon at Morgan's Restaurant on Tuesday, December 14 at 11:30am. Everyone is to bring a canned food for the Food Bank. We will also decide the organizations and amounts that we will donate from our treasury. Remember, UMW is open to all ladies of our church and we invite you to join us. Call Melinda McCollum 301-695-6229 or Thelma Gesling 301-865-5514 if you need more information...

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*THANK YOU*

**Many thanks to the women of the UMW circle of friends who visited me on my birthday. I really enjoyed it.  
Katherine Lake**

**Thank you to all the wonderful members of our church for the prayers, cards, emails and phone calls when I was having health issues and after our house was robbed. We deeply appreciate your kindness during this tough time. Thank you for lifting us up when we needed it the most.  
Phil, Cathy, Ashley and Justin Gamble**

**I thank you for your many and continued prayers and concern for our grandson, Clint Gesling, that had the eye accident back in May. Clint was recently measured for a hard contact lens which he will get December 28. He will also see the retina doctor at that date again. Hopefully this will restore his eyesight to 20/60. Your prayers have been such a support to Clint, his family, and this Grammy. I feel so blessed to be a member of such a loving and caring church...Thanks.  
Thelma Gesling**

